THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) We had recommended to the Pakistan High Commission in Delhi, the visa applications of 7798, 7405, 6975 and 2567 pilgrims during the years 1992, 1993, 1994 and 1995. According to available information approximately 7190, 5760, 5370 and 1970 Indian pilgrims visited Pakistan in the years 1992, 1993, 1994 and 1995 respectively.

The exact number of visa requests which were rejected by the Pakistan High Commissionis not available.

During the years 1992, 1993, 1994 and 1995 aproximate number of Pakistani pilgrims who visited India has been 380, 80, 420, and 580 respectively.

(c) and (d) Pakistan, regrettably, has adopted a restrictive visa regime even for those religious jathas that visit Pakistan as part of the Indo-pak Protocol on Religious Shrines, 1974.

Government have urged Pakistan to fulfill its commitments under the Indo-Pak Protocol on Religious Shrines, 1974 and have also specifically proposed that the sub-commission IV of the Indo-Pak Joint Commission, which deals with visa-related matters be re-convened.

Indo-Thailand joint Business Council Meeting

7111. SMT. BASANTI SARMA:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of EXTERMANL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the meeting of the indo-Thailand Joint Business Council was held recently;

(b) if so, what are the deliberations which took place in this meeting;

(c) what has been the outcome of this meeting; and

(d) what steps have been taken to follow up the points agreed to in the meeting?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir. The India-Thailand Joint Business Council Meeting was held on July 14, 1984 in Bangkok.

(b) During the meeting, the two sides discussed the need for and prospects of expanding trade and economic relations between the two countries. The state of the economy, including the investment environment in both countries was also discussed.

(c) As a result of the meeting, there has been a better understanding of the potential for trade expansion and the concrete steps to be taken in this regard.

(d) As part of follow-up action, the JBC - organised a meeting between the visiting Thai Deputy Foreign Minister and Indian industry, in November, 1994.

Anomalies in the Pay-scales of employees of Sapru House Library

7112. DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:
SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Sapru House Library, Barakhamba Road, New Delhi, is an autonomous body and is running under the Ministry of Expternal Affairs;

(b) if so, the number of employees working in the library for the last five years and how many employees have been recruited during 1994-95, and 1995-96, category-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that the employees of the said library have submitted representations to Government regarding anomalies in their pay-scales and for implementing the Fourth Pay Commission's report, payment of D.A., A.D.A. due from 1st October, 1983, till date, and* payment of Interim Relief due from 1st June, 1983 and 1st March, 1985; and

(d) if so, the reasons for non-implementation, of Pay Commission's report and non-payment of D.A., A.D.A. to the employees and by when appropriate action would be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) The Sapru House Library

is a part of Indian Council of World Affairs, which is an autonomous body registered under the Registration of Societies Act. As such, the Ministry of External Affairs has no control over it.

(b) The India Council of World Affairs being an autonomous body, the Ministry of External Affairs has no informantion on this.

(c) The employees of the Indian Council of World Affairs, including those of the library, have been representing to Government of India from time to time regarding anomalies in pay-scales, service conditions, etc.

(d) It is for the management of Indian Council of World Affairs to implement Pay Commission's recommendations and the Government of India is not in a position to say when appropriate action would be taken by the Council in this regard.

विदेश मंत्रालय के अधीनस्थ संगठनों में भ्रष्टाचार

7113. **श्री ईश दत्त यादव:**
श्री कनकसिंह मोहनसिंह पंगरोला:

क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि हाल ही में विदेश मंत्रालय के अधीन कार्यरत संगठनों में भ्रष्टाचार की सूचनाएं मिली है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो कितने अधिकारियों के विरूद्ध कार्यवाही की गई और उनमें से कितने अधिकारियों को गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान नौकरी से निकाल दिया गया है;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि भ्रष्टाचार तथा कदाचार के आरोपों के मामलों में अधिकारियों को दण्ड-स्वरूप मात्र स्थानांतरित ही किया गया है; और

(घ) भ्रष्टाचार तथा कदाचार में लिप्त अधिकारियों के विरूद्ध कड़ी कार्रवाई करने हेतु सरकार क्या प्रयास कर रही है?

विदेश मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री आर॰ एल॰ भाटिया): (क) विभिन्न पासपोर्ट कार्यालयों में भ्रष्टाचार के संबंध में समय-समय पर रिपोर्टें प्राप्त हो रही हैं।

(ख) पिछले 3 वर्षों के दौरान 31 मामलों में या तो विभागीय स्तर पर या सुरक्षा अधिकरणों द्वारा कार्रवाई की गई है। ये मामले जांच की विभिन्न अवस्थाओं में हैं जिनमें अनुशासनात्मक कार्रवाइयां शुरु करना अथवा दण्ड देने से सम्बद्ध निर्णय लेने की प्रक्रिया अन्तिम दौर में है। दो कर्मचारियों की सेवायें समाप्त कर दी गई है।

(ग) और (घ) यदि यह पाया जाता है कि किसी कार्यालय विशेष में किसी कर्मचारी की तैनाती बनी रहना सार्वजनिक हित में नहीं है तो ऐसे मामलों में स्थानान्तरण किए जाते हैं। जिन मामलों में भ्रष्टाचार और कदाचार के आरोप हैं और जि मामलों में प्रथम दृष्टया इस बात के साक्ष्य हैं कि कर्मचारी का इनमें हाथ है, उन सभी मामलों की उपयुक्त जांच की जाती है और निर्धारित क्रिया-विधियों के अनुसार विभाग द्वारा अथवा सुरक्षा अधिकरणों द्वारा सक्रिय रूप से और गम्भीरता पूर्वक कार्यवाही की जाती है। जिन मामलों में यह साबित हो जाता है कि पासपोर्ट जारी करने में अनियमितता बरतने के लिए कोई कर्मचारी दोषी है अथवा उसके बारे में यह पाया जाता है कि उसने गैर कानूनी पारितोषण प्राप्त किया है, तो दोषी कर्मचारी को नियमों में यथानिर्धारित दण्ड दिया जाता है।

Minimum wages to ICWA Staff

7114. DR. BIPLAB DAS GUPTA:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact the ICWA staff are not getting even the minimum wages;

(b) if so, what legal action Government have initiated against the management; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R L. BHATIA): (a) to (c) The Indian Council of World Affairs is an autonomous body registered under the Registration of Societies Act. As such the Government has be control over its functioning. It is a fact that Government has been receiving for quite some time now, complaints about mismanagement of the Council including, inter alia, dissatisfactory functioning of its library, etc. The Government has been in touch with the management to set the affairs of the Council in order and has proposed constitution of an advisory/supervisory comittee to go into thorough detail of the functioning of the Council with a view to revamping the functioning of the Indian Council of World Affairs. The Government is awaiting the response of the council to its proposal. As and when the